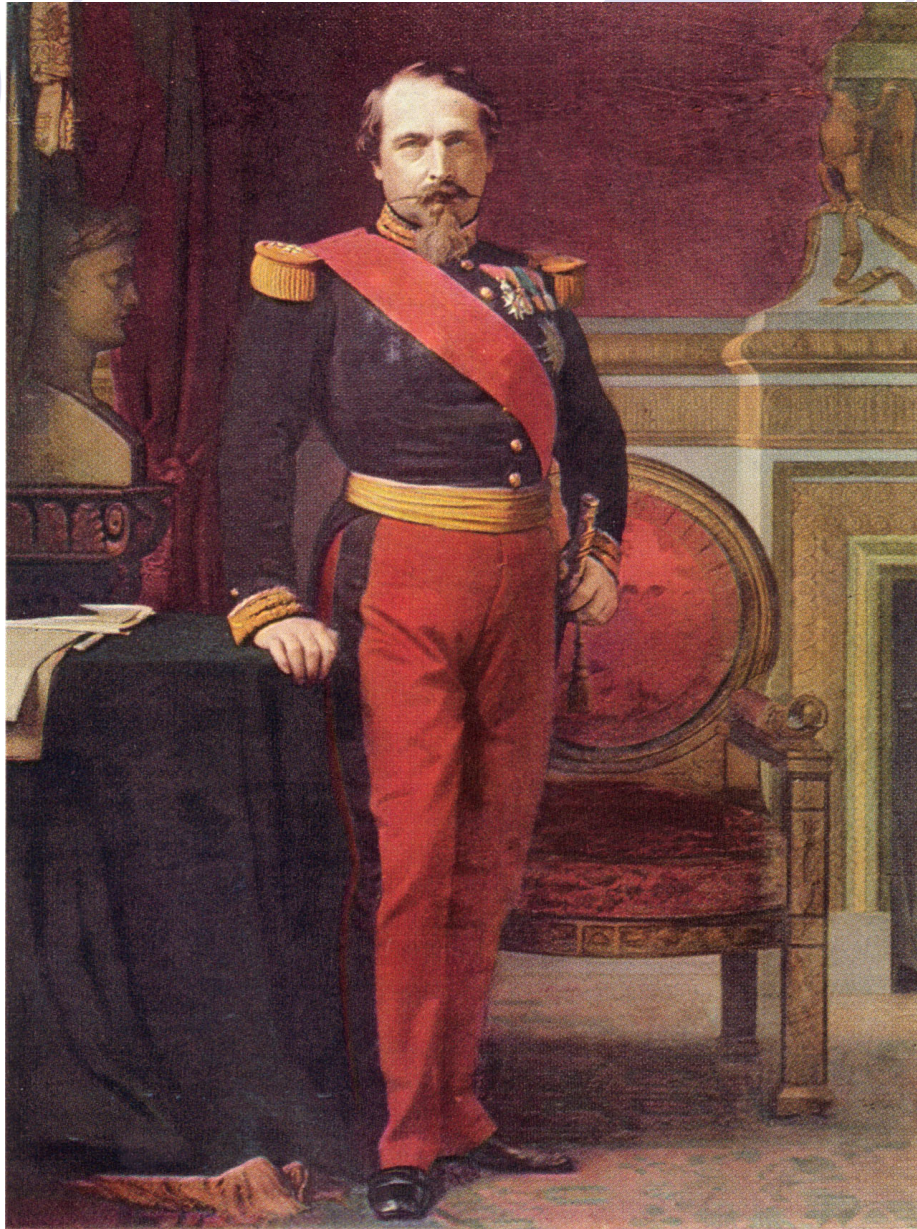




Napoleon III



Quick Biography



- Born Paris- 1808 Nephew to Napoleon I
- Exiled to Switzerland & Italy after Waterloo
- After death of Napoleon's son in 1832- became claimant to French throne
- Attempted coup 1840- arrested; exiled to England
- Returned to Paris in 1848- elected to National Assembly

Quick Biography- con't

- Elected as President because of granting universal suffrage
- Staged another coup 1851- became Emperor of France's Second Empire
- Gov't restructured so he could be President for 10 years.
- Led France in Crimean War and negotiated Treaty of Paris-1856
- Sided with Sicily against Austria- victorious at Battle of Solferino- 1859
- Aided Italy against Austria –got Nice and Savoy in return

Quick Biography- con't

- Promoted Liberalism during later reign
- Created Latin empire- installed Maximilian in Mexico 1864-67-Failure
- Kept France neutral in Austro-Prussian War
- 1870- Franco-Prussian War against Bismarck- lost Battle of Sedan, surrendered, deposed; exiled to England; died in 1873



Politics

- Authoritarian Rule
- Restriction of press
- Strong bureaucracy relies on loyal prefects- all power to Napoleon
- “Boiling Pot”- Napoleon III kept lid on currents seething underneath-
- Example problems-Catholics, socialists, labor, liberals

Economics- GOOD



- Gradual expansion of economy
- Improved public works-builds railroads, bridges, education under RCC, built Suez Canal
- Investments- Credit Foncier (France) fostered middle class investment
- Free trade advocate

Economics- BAD



- 40 M- population stagnation
- Slow pace of industrialization-
France 1900-33% agriculture
England 1900- 5% agriculture
- This will hinder France later



Social

- Immigration increase
- Strongly Catholic- Napoleon becomes embroiled in Italian unification issues- angers the Catholics- Napoleon sends French troops to protect Pope Pius IX- troops stay and complicate unification



Military

- Crimean War- alliance with GB
- Italy & Piedmont- gained Nice and Savoy
- **Franco Prussian War-lost Alsace and Lorraine**
- Protects Pope
- Maximillian- Mexico (stupid move)



Other

- Rebuilding of Paris- Baron Haussmann large vistas discourage Paris uprisings and blockades
- Devious and was characterized as a womanizer
- French Nationalism- promoted France as major European power- second largest economy in Europe after GB (but not for long)

Decline

- 1852-1867- authoritarian –prefects central power
- 1870- Franco- Prussian War
- Government passes legislative Assembly to Third Republic/Paris Commune-March 1871



Third Republic-1870-1940

- French Constitutional Laws 1875-set up Chamber of Deputies and Senate as legislature
- President as Head of State
- First President Adolphe Thiers
- Third Republic set up many colonies in Asia and Africa